

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TORONT 00790 042124Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CEQ-01 EPA-04 OES-06 COME-00 EB-08
FEA-01 ERDA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 CEA-01 FPC-01
H-02 INT-05 L-03 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 SS-15
STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /123 W
-----042127Z 057352 /70

R 042029Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL TORONTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5244
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMCONSUL CALGARY
AMCONSUL VANCOUVER

UNCLAS TORONTO 0790

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ENRG, ELTN, SOP, CA
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION -- KITIMAT OIL PORT

1. APIL 4 TORONTO STAR CARRIED INSIGHT COLUMN DATELINED
VANCOUVER BY DOUG COLLINS HEADLINED "U.S. WANTS KITIMAT, B.C.
FOR OIL DEPOT." WHICH LOOKED AT PROPOSED KITIMAT OIL TERMINAL
AS "AN AMERICAN IDEA" WHICH WOULD BE EASIER AND QUICKER TO BUILD
THAN AT ANY POINT IN THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE POLLUTION LAWS
ARE "LESS STRINGENT HERE THAN THEY ARE SOUTH OF THE BORDER."

2. ARTICLE COVERS BACKGROUND IN ALTERNATIVES OF TRANSPORT OF ALASKAN
OIL FROM VALDEZ, INCLUDING PREMIER BENNETT'S FENCE-SITTING POSITION.
ARTICLE ALSO REFERS TO APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSOR ANDREW THOMPSON
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF B.C. TO CONDUCT A FEDERAL COMMISSION OF
INQUIRY INTO WHETHER B.C. SHOULD HAVE A MAJOR OIL PORT, QUOTING
THOMPSON'S STATEMENT SOME WEEKS BEFORE SAYING THAT CANADIANS
IN EFFECT ALREADY HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO A NEW OIL PORT.
THOMPSON ALSO ALLEGEDLY NOTED DANGER IN DELAY AS BRITISH
COLUMBIA MIGHT WIND UP WITH TWO OIL PORTS IN OR NEAR THE
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PROVINCE. THOMPSON APPARENTLY MEANT THAT IF U.S. PRESSED
URGENTLY ENOUGH, IT MIGHT DECIDE ON PART CONSTRUCTION IN
WASHINGTON STATE WHERE POLLUTION WOULD POSE EQUAL THREAT TO B.C.
NVIRONMENT.

3. ARTICLE ADMITTED THAT CONSORTIUM SUPPORTING KITIMAT
CONSISTS OF 2 CANADIAN COMPANIES AND 2 U.S. COMPANIES BUT STATED

THAT 75 PERCENT OF FINANCING WOULD BE U.S. AND PRIMARY
DESTINATION OF OIL WOULD BE U.S. ARTICLE CLAIMED THAT EXCEPT FOR
HIGH EMPLOYMENT OF 2-YEAR CONSTRUCTION PHASE AND POSSIBLE SUPPLY
FACTOR WHEN CANADIAN RESOURCES NO LONGER AVAILABLE, KITIMAT
HAS LITTLE ECONOMIC APPEAL TO B.C.
DIGGINS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CONSTRUCTION, PETROLEUM PIPELINES, KITIMAT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TORONT00790
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770117-0160
Format: TEL
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Litigation History:
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